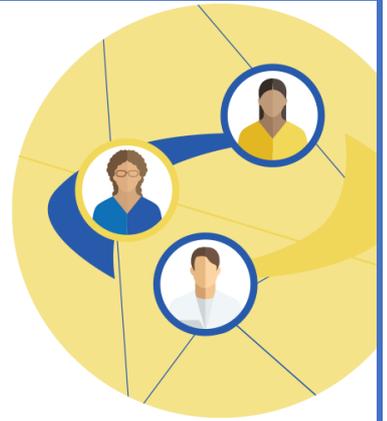


## Beds & Herts LMC Ltd: Weekly Update for Practices, Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022



### In this edition:

1. **Changes to death certification**
2. **Rebuild General Practice Campaign**
3. **GPDF - Review of current GP Representation**

#### 1. **Changes to death certification due to the lapse of the Coronavirus Act 2020**

This lapses at midnight on the 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

Changes that will remain on a permanent basis:

- The period before death within which a doctor completing a MCCD must have seen the deceased in their last illness to avoid the certificate being rejected by the Registrar, will remain 28 days rather than 14 days.
- Medical practitioners should still send MCCDs to Registrars electronically – this is included in the Electronic Communication Act December 2021. The original MCCD should not be given the deceased's family or representative.
- Form Cremation 5 will not be reintroduced.

Changes that will not continue:

- The provision temporarily allowing *any* medical practitioner to complete the MCCD/Crem 4 will be discontinued.
- Informants will have to register deaths in person, not remotely.

This means that completion of the MCCD and cremation form 4 must be filled in by a doctor who attended the deceased in their last illness and saw them within 28 days before their death (this includes video as well as face to face but not telephone) or saw the body in person after death. If these conditions are not met the coroner's office **MUST** be informed. If there are no concerns the coroner may allow you to complete a MCCD by issuing a form 100A to allow the registration of the death and subsequent cremation. If this is the case, please state it clearly in answer to questions 20 and 21 of Cremation form 4.

The Royal College of Pathologists have compiled a [flowchart](#) which outlines the process when completing a Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD).

#### 2. **Rebuild General Practice: General Practice is in Crisis. Patient Safety is at Risk.**

GPs and their teams faced an extremely challenging time during the COVID-19 pandemic. At the same time, general practice in England continues to face a worsening workforce crisis. BMA research published last year showed that the NHS has lost nearly 2,000 full-time equivalent GPs in England since 2015.

In response, working in partnership, the BMA and GPDF have launched the [Rebuild General Practice](#) campaign with a clear call to action: to rebuild general practice or put patient safety at increasing risk.

This builds on last year's *Support Your Surgery* campaign, which saw nearly 30,000 GPs and patients join our call for the urgent funding needed for GP practices across England. The Government still haven't met their commitments to general practice, which is why we will continue to campaign for change, and act on your behalf.

To launch the campaign, Dr Kieran Sharrock gave a [keynote speech](#) at an event held this morning at 11 Cavendish Square in London. He was joined by Jeremy Hunt MP, Dr Brian McGregor, and Dr Rachel Ward in speaking to an audience of GPs, stakeholders and media to outline the impact on patients that the workforce crisis is having.

The campaign has also released the findings of a survey of GPs in England, Wales, and Scotland, which showed that:

- Nearly nine in 10 GPs fear patients aren't always safe at their surgeries
- Seven out of 10 GPs feel the risk to 'patient safety' is increasing
- GPs cited staff shortages and too little time for appointments as the main factors putting patients at risk -
  - 86% of GPs stated they didn't have enough time with patients
  - 77% of GPs said GP shortages were putting patient safety at risk

You can find a copy of the press release [here](#) as well as extensive coverage across this morning's news including in the [Guardian](#), [Daily Mirror](#) and [Pulse](#) amongst others.

The *Rebuild General Practice* campaign was created with GPs for GPs. Your support to amplify these messages will help us to raise the alarm and ultimately secure a better working environment for both GPs and patients.

It is vital that we build as much support for the campaign as possible. You can find more information on the campaign website – [www.rebuildgp.co.uk](http://www.rebuildgp.co.uk)

You can also follow and share content, news, and updates on the campaign Twitter account -- <https://twitter.com/rebuildgp>

### **3. GPDF – Review of current GP Representation**

The conference of UK LMCs in May 2021 approved a motion requesting GPDF commission a review of GP representation.

This independent review is being led by Ijeoma Omambala QC, supported by a team including consultation specialists, to enable her to deliver her report ahead of the Conference in May 2022.

A critically important element of the review is a consultation in which every GP regardless of setting can contribute their views on the issue of representation. This includes Partners, Fixed share Partners (sometimes referred to as Salaried Partners), Salaried GPs, Locum GPs, Trainees, Returners and Retainees.

<https://surveys.opinionsite.com/survey/selfserve/20dc/2203166?list=3>

This consultation is conducted on a fully confidential basis which means that the identity of the participants will not be provided to anyone other than the research organisation administering the consultation.

The devolved nature of representation and the healthcare systems (England, Scotland, and Wales) is recognised and therefore it is intended that the results of this consultation will be reported on a nation basis, not a collective basis.

The consultation is now open and will close on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

**News** - For the latest news, information and weekly updates for practices, please visit the [Hot Topics](#) section of our website.

**BHLMC Job Board** - Advertise your practice vacancies or search for jobs on our [Job Board](#). If you are interested in posting an advert please contact [lmadmin@bhlmc.co.uk](mailto:lmadmin@bhlmc.co.uk) for more information.

**Locums** - If you are a Locum and would like to receive LMC updates, please register via the [online form](#) to be added to our database and mailing list.

**Workforce Wellbeing & Support** [Visit our webpage](#).

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